

## **2009 Calendar of Events - Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area**

### **January - December**

### **Traditional Arts Workshops**

Join us for these great workshops that offer a unique opportunity to learn traditional and primitive art forms from expert instructors! Pre-registration will be required in addition to an instructor and materials fee. Ask for our separate listing!

### **January – December**

### **Musters & Living History Events**

Re-enactors join us at Fort Watauga during various weekends of each month to present demonstrations and glimpses into frontier life during the 18<sup>th</sup> century in this region. Please check with the park for scheduled weekend dates.

### **January – December**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each Month

### **Shape Note Singing - Led by Don Wiley**

3 – 5 pm

Enjoy the beautiful 4 part harmonies produced by singing the “shapes” each month at Sycamore Shoals. A very early tradition, in which the various shapes represented each note of the do-re-mi scale. We invite you to join “The Old Fields Singers” for an experience you will not forget.

### **March – October**

### **Guest Naturalist Tour & Lecture Series**

Throughout the year, area naturalists will be joining us at varied times to share in their areas of expertise. Guided tours, hikes, talks, and field trips will explore the park and other areas of natural interest.

### **One Saturday per month**

except July, September, November, & December

### **Mountain River Concerts**

Our continuing series of performances highlight the talents of traditional musicians, cloggers, storytellers, and more, meets in the theater of the Visitors Center. Please call the park for a listing of scheduled entertainers and times. Admissions Charge.

### **Throughout the year**

### **History at Home**

A creative mix of historical & natural programs presented throughout the year by our interpretive staff. Please call for weekly schedules.

**Fridays in June**

June 12, 19, 26

**Colonial Kids**

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Spend a day at the Carter Mansion for a day of historical & natural activities for young people ages 9 - 13. Registration is limited to 10 each week. Small fee for each session.

**June –October**

Last Sunday of the Month

**Sunday Jams at the Carter Mansion**

2:00 - 5:00 pm

Our open pickin' and sharin' session is open to musicians of all levels, dancers, listeners, and toe tappers! Join us for this home-style gathering!

**Saturdays - May & October     Bird Walks w/ Lee & Lois Herndon TOS Chapter**

May 16 &amp; October 3, 10, 17, &amp; 24

8:00 a.m

Meet these wonderful birders and naturalists at Sycamore Shoals for a morning of birding during the migratory season.

**Chipping of the Greens**

Saturday, January 3

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring your Christmas tree down to the upper parking lot at the Visitors Center and the city will chip it into mulch. Save room in the landfill and take home a garbage bag of mulch for your yard. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

**Old Christmas: Winter Garrison at Fort Watauga**

Saturday &amp; Sunday, January 3 &amp; January 4

10:00 am- 4:00 pm

Join Hardin's Rangers, a French and Indian War period re-enactment group, at Fort Watauga for a living history look into the 18th century. Featuring a host of frontier life demonstrations that you can participate in!

**Fort Muster**

Saturday &amp; Sunday, February 14 &amp; February 15

10:00 am

The Company of Overmountain Men will garrison at Fort Watauga and present insights into life of the backwoods Militia during the Revolutionary War. Join us for drill, cooking, battle demonstrations, and much more.

**Overmountain Weavers Guild Fibers Show and Sale**

Saturday, March 14

10 am – 4 pm

Don't miss this great opportunity to visit with some of the best weavers of our region! They will be demonstrating on a variety of looms & spinning wheels, and offering handmade items for sale.

**Landscape Seminar & Plant Auction**

Saturday, April 18

9:00 am

An exciting array of unusual ornamental & native perennials, trees and shrubs will be auctioned during this event. A great opportunity to add new species to your landscape! Sponsored by The UT Extension Service, E.Tenn. Nursery Assoc., and the Eliz/Carter Co. Chamber of Commerce.

**Community Plant Exchange**

Saturday, April 25

9:00 am

The front parking lot will be bustling this morning! Bring cuttings and potted outdoor and indoor plants, to exchange for species you don't have. A fun way to meet other gardeners and increase your collection.

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Siege at Fort Watauga**

Saturday &amp; Sunday, May 16 &amp; May 17

10:00am

It's 1776 and the Colonies are in the throws of Revolution and the frontier is in a state of chaos. Militant Cherokee are being armed by the British and threaten to attack the settlements. Come see how settlers of the Watauga Valley defend their lives, families, hearth, and home at the "Siege."

**Sycamore Shoals Native American Festival**

Saturday &amp; Sunday, June 6 &amp; 7

10:00 am – 6:00 pm

A two-day celebration of our Native American Heritage. Come and discover the arts, music, dance, crafts, legends and stories of our Native Americans with emphasis on the Cherokee culture. Admissions Charge.

**Fine Arts Show with the Watauga Valley Art League**

Month of July

Opening Reception: Sunday, June 28

2 – 4 pm

Stop by the museum at Sycamore Shoals to view the beautiful artwork of the Watauga Valley Art League. Local artists display their talents during the entire month of July.

**An 18<sup>th</sup> Century Independence Celebration**

Saturday, July 4

Celebrate the beginning of our nation's independence! We will be hosting a gala that will include the arrival, by courier, of the Declaration of Independence, raising of the Continental Colors, refreshments, and contests!

### **Independence Weekend Garrison**

Saturday & Sunday, July 4 & 5

A fine opportunity to visit with the Company of Overmountain Men and become a part of the excitement of 1776! The celebration will take place of Saturday; the garrison will continue until Sunday at 3 pm.

### **Liberty: The Saga of Sycamore Shoals - Our 31st Year!**

Thursday – Saturday, July 9 – 11, 16-18, & 23-25

Don't miss *Tennessee's longest running outdoor drama*, depicting the 18th Century settlement of Northeast Tennessee. Presented each year by local performers in the shadow of Fort Watauga. The drama tells the story of the major events surrounding the Watauga Settlement on the grounds where they actually happened. Seating is available in the Fort Watauga Amphitheater and performances begin evenings at 7:30 pm. Sponsored by Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Admissions Charge.

### **Fifth Annual Newell-Hendershot Water media Exhibition**

Month of August

Opening Reception: Saturday, August 8

2 – 4 pm

Watercolor presents a style & beauty all its own. Entries are submitted by four art organizations to this judged show. The August 8th opening includes watercolor demos, presentation of awards at 2 pm, and much more. Exhibit can be viewed during regular park hours.

### **7th Annual Elizabethton Butterfly Count**

Sunday, August 2

Meeting times: 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

Join naturalist Don Holt for this day long winged adventure. Come for all or part of the day. Sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association & Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. (Rain Date: Saturday, August 8.)

### **Carter Mansion Celebration & Garrison**

Saturday & Sunday, August 8 & 9

10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Join us at the oldest frame house in Tennessee, the beautiful Carter Mansion, located on Broad Street Extension for two days of music and fun. The detailed interior of this house, built around 1775, is unparalleled in Tennessee. Camped along the bank of the Watauga River, you can visit 18<sup>th</sup> century re-enactors, demonstrating period skills.

## **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival**

Friday – Sunday, September 11, 12, 13

Friday Night Torchlight Ceremony	6:30 pm
Saturday – Sunday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday Night Concert	6:30 pm

Come celebrate our Celtic heritage! Opening with a torchlight ceremony Friday Night, Clans and Family Societies will be on hand to help with family history; dance, music, food, vendors, demonstrations, reenactments of 18th & 19th Century heritage, lectures, and a special musical concert on Saturday evening. Admissions Charge.

## **Overmountain Victory Trail March**

Friday, September 25

Members of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association have recreated the historic march of the Overmountain Men since 1975. This year the marchers will cross the Watauga River at Sycamore Shoals, just as the militia did 227 years ago for the muster before they rode to victory at King's Mountain. Approximate time of crossing the river is 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

## **Overmountain Victory Trail Celebration**

Saturday & Sunday , September 26 & September 27      10:00 am

Join us for an encampment by the Company of Overmountain Men militia before the Battle of King's Mountain in 1780. Live some of the most crucial days of the American Revolution. Call the park for the schedule of events.

## **Mysterious Candlelight Tours of the John and Landon Carter Mansion**

Month of October      Dates & Times TBA

Have you ever wondered what goes on at the Carter mansion after dark? A house that is over 200 years old is bound to have some mysterious stories. At select times during the month of October, you will have the rare opportunity to visit the oldest frame house in Tennessee and explore the mysterious side of this historic place.

## **Fort Watauga Knap-In**

Saturday & Sunday, October 3 & 4      10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Help us celebrate Tennessee Archaeology Week at Fort Watauga with demonstrations of how pre-historic man made stone tools and weapons. Displays of replicated primitive artifacts and demonstrations with primitive weapons such as bow and arrow and atlatl fill the days. Come and make your own projectile points!

### **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Sycamore Shoals Quilt Show**

Thursday – Saturday, October 1 - 4

This four-day exhibition, sponsored by the Sycamore Shoals Stitchers, features a show and demonstrations by local quilters held in the park museum. Bed quilts, wall hangings, holiday and baby quilts, miniatures and antique quilts will be on display.

### **Scary Stories at the Carter Mansion**

Thursday, October 29

7:30 pm

Strange things happen around the time of All Hallows Eve, especially in a graveyard. Join us for tales of woe and terror, the weird and macabre, with a touch of wit thrown in for good measure. Don't be afraid, the graveyard at the Carter Mansion isn't haunted, we don't think!

### **Christmas Craft Show**

Friday – Sunday, November 13, 14, & 15

Opens 10 am Friday

Continues regular park hours

Don't miss this tremendously popular craft extravaganza just in time for Christmas. Forty-eight local crafts persons exhibit and demonstrate their talents with a Christmas twist.

### **Thanksgiving Garrison at Fort Watauga**

Saturday & Sunday, November 21-22

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Join us as Hardin's Rangers provide a glimpse into the past with an 18th century Thanksgiving at Fort Watauga. Plenty of food and demonstrations.

### **Winterfest Christmas Tree Exhibit & Art Show**

Month of December

Opening Reception November 29 1:30 pm

With an annual Winterfest theme, this event opens with a reception to view the trees, artwork, and an opportunity to meet the artists. The exhibit features Fraser fir trees decorated by local organizations with handmade ornaments. The Watauga Valley Art League displays the artwork.

### **Christmas at the Carter Mansion**

Friday & Saturday, December 4 & 5

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Spend the evening in this 18<sup>th</sup> century home built on the frontier around 1775 featuring the beautiful interior craftsmanship decorated for Christmas in the style of 1780. Costumed interpreters, candlelight, refreshments, and music highlight the evening.

**Christmas Muster at Fort Watauga**

Saturday & Sunday, December 5 & 6

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Ring in the Christmas season with the Company of Overmountain Men as they celebrate with living history demonstrations of the 18th century in the backwoods of Colonial America.

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area

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[www.sycamoreshoals.org](http://www.sycamoreshoals.org)

[www.tnstateparks.com/SycamoreShoals/](http://www.tnstateparks.com/SycamoreShoals/)